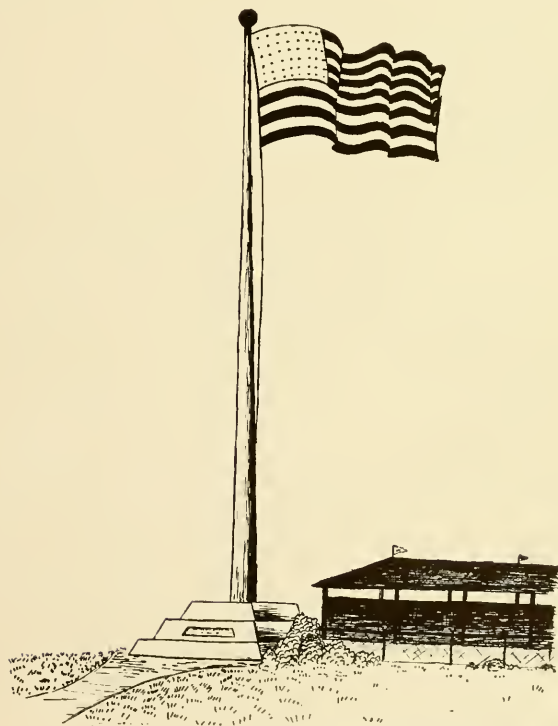


HISTORY
OF THE
WOODBIDGE TOWNSHIP
STADIUM
AND
SCHOOL SYSTEM



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HISTORY
OF THE
WOODBIDGE TOWNSHIP
STADIUM
AND
SCHOOL SYSTEM



Drawing by Anna Lauritzen
Pen and ink by John Dockstader



WOODBRIDGE TOWNSHIP STADIUM COMMISSION

First row, left to right: James Rauchman, Eugene Schreiner, Fred Spencer, August Greiner, Charles R. Brown, Stephen L. Hruska, James Catano.

Second row: Elmer Vecsey, Konrad Stern, James Reid, Mark McClain, John Markulin, Sr., A. F. Rankin, Maurice Sullivan.

Third row: Ernest Link, Harry Gerns, Dr. C. Howard Rothfuss, Dr. Henry Belafsky, Joseph Klein, John Markulin, Jr.

HISTORY OF THE WOODBIDGE TOWNSHIP STADIUM

By ELMER J. VECSEY

The athletic stadium movement, started nine years ago by the *WOODBIDGE LEADER*, accelerated by the *WOODBIDGE JOURNAL* three years ago and placed into scoring position by the *LEADER-JOURNAL*, *WOODBIDGE INDEPENDENT* and *PERTH AMBOY EVENING NEWS* this year, is nearing its acropolis.

And, whether or not it is put across with a sharper thump than expected depends greatly on how well the public bolsters the closing events of the drive for funds by the sponsors of the gigantic project.

The struggle for a township stadium has been a long, drawn out one. For nine years a hue and cry has gone up at stated intervals. Each time the subject melted away and died a natural death.

Jolly Rogers Plant Seed

Back in 1927 Woodbridge boasted of as fine a semi-pro football team that ever graced a gridiron in this state. High school football, at that time, lacked the color and spirit of the present day scholastic game. Something was sorely needed to supplant this condition and it was with this purpose in mind that a group of spirited athletes banded together and formed the Jolly Rogers Club.

For the mere love of the game, nothing else, a dozen or so former Woodbridge high school pigskin artists decided that the club needed a football eleven. Windsor J. Lakis, sports writer for the *Woodbridge Leader* that year and sports editor of the *Leader-Journal* today, was designated as manager of the newly formed team and was instructed to arrange bookings with the best possible opposition the state afforded.

The team, with but two weeks of practice, started out on a gridiron campaign that drew state-wide publicity. In nine games played, the Jolly Rogers earned eight victories and were defeated only once and then by a single touchdown. The combine was the talk of the town . . . the County . . . the STATE.

That was nine years ago. Today, the Jolly Rogers are forgotten men. But one thing this writer has not forgotten is the fact that it was the Jolly Rogers' team that planted a seed we all expect to see burst into bloom this Fall.

After its splendid gridiron campaign, the Jolly Rogers were accorded a football banquet in appreciation of their excellent performance. Such men as "Chuck" Caldwell, Princeton varsity center that year; Dean Metzger, of Rutgers; William A. Ryan, township mayor at that time, and others attended the dinner. The main topic of discussion concerned the immediate need of an athletic field.

The stadium seed was planted at this affair . . . and it was given plenty of water. Among those who did much to nurse the seed along were: Mark D. McClain, chairman of the stadium sponsors in 1928; Mr. Ryan, Earl Carlisle, George Nelson, Theodore X. O'Brien, Leland Morgensen, Wayne T. Cox, Irving Reimers, Roy Anderson, George Balint, K. V. Hoff-

man, Randall Lee, A. H. Bowers, Maxwell Logan, A. L. Saywell, George Merrill, Mr. Lakis and your writer. But, unforeseen elements popped up to stop the seed's growth.

Boom Renewed by the Leader

Three years later an effort to give Woodbridge Township a municipal stadium was boomed by the *Woodbridge Leader*. The campaign befitted a candidate seeking a public office. In fact, one couldn't tell whether Mayor Ryan was running for re-election or the stadium seeking the office. But again the splendid idea became another of those many "air castles." The trouble seemed to be that, although the stadium plan was favored by the majority, words were dominant over action.

Journal Provides Real Punch

The stadium thought lay in an embryonic state until 1933. That year the *Woodbridge Journal* came across the seed. A fertilization period followed. Suddenly the semen showed signs of life. Here was the cue to "take off." And, there was a "take off!" The *Journal's* shot jolted the township. With the reverberation still alive the *Leader* and *Independent* adhered to the cause.

Blast followed blast in an effort to register a quick victory. The drive was high-pressured to such an extent that the stadium idea began to click. At that time, however, the township — and country as well — was undergoing one of the worst stages of the depression.

This writer and Mr. Lakis went into lengthy detail in numerous articles explaining a procedure that would have given the township an athletic field with-

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COMMISSION





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QUEEN OF THE STADIUM**

out cost to the taxpayers. And, the stadium could have been a reality at that time if it hadn't been for a few lame ducks who squabbled over the selection of a site.

The stadium would have been erected through a CWA project fund, but while the wrangle over a suitable site was going on the CWA went out of existence—and so did the stadium drive.

Stadium Commission Is Born

In November, 1934, Harry M. Gerns, then township committeeman, called to arms representatives of all civic, social and service organizations of the township. An informal meeting was held in the Municipal building. Those famous cards we hear so much about were placed on the table. The gathering meant business . . . real business. When that initial session adjourned, an organized unit walked away but was scheduled to return a week later.

For a month and a half the group, with Mr. Gerns as temporary chairman and this writer, secretary, met weekly. A careful study and thorough investigation was made regarding possible methods to be utilized in raising the necessary funds to construct the stadium.

Finally in January, 1935, with plans, by-laws and what-have-you to work with the group formally or-

ganized itself into the present day Woodbridge Township Stadium Commission, Inc.

Stephen L. Hruska was selected president of the Commission . . . other officers included Konrad Stern, vice president; Arthur C. Ferry, secretary, and Charles R. Brown, treasurer. John H. Love, William C. Messick, Frank W. Kirkleski, Asher Fitz Randolph, Harry M. Gerns and Dr. C. Howard Rothfuss comprised the board of directors. The balance of the membership had James Rauchman, Raymond Howell, the late John H. Concannon, Frank Rankin, Harry Lager and this writer.

Little did this group of civic-minded men know what they would go through. Weeks of turmoil and nerve-wracking sessions . . . difficulties with outlying sections of the township over proposed sites . . . tiresome caucuses with township officials night after night in an effort to obtain recognition and full co-operation. All went to make the travel of the Commission as miserable as possible.

Continued co-operation of the Woodbridge Leader-Journal, Woodbridge Independent and Perth Amboy Evening News did much to help the Commission gain its points with township officials who finally granted the Commission's request to take over ten acres of land bordering on the Super-highway near the Clover Leaf intersection in lieu of back taxes.

With the ground already acquired, the Commission members settled down to negotiate the most difficult portion of the project — the raising of \$10,000. This episode of the greatest drama ever enacted in the history of the township proved to be a headache never to be forgotten by the sponsors.

A benefit moving picture performance started the drive off with enough funds to care for immediate incidentals such as printing, corporation papers and etc. An amateur boxing show staged at the Woodbridge Speedway in July, 1935, barely pulled itself out of the red. The automobile and diamond ring

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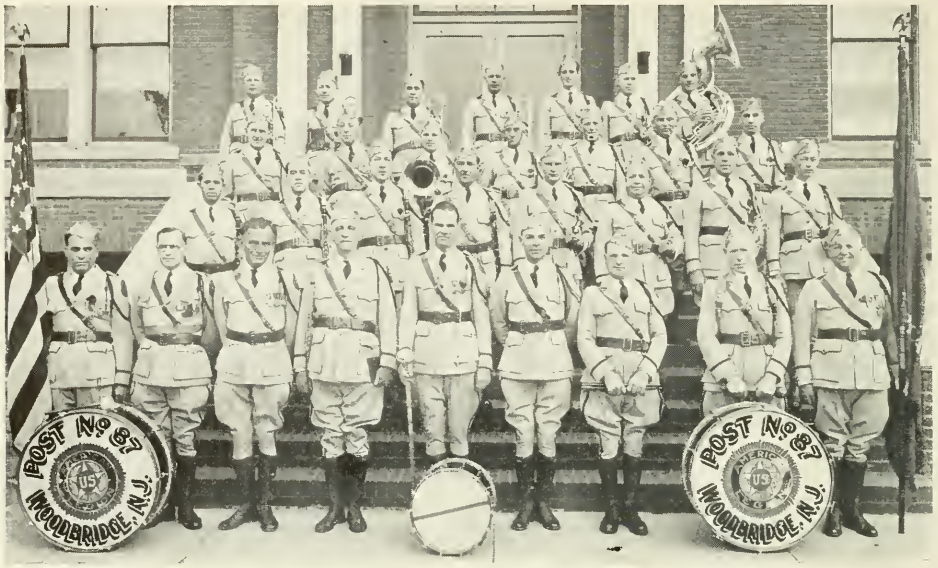
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drawing was another fund-raising attempt that just "pulled through."

Hardship afted hardship followed the footsteps of the Commission members. Imnuendos of misman-agement of funds were even aimed at the men who were sacrificing their everything to provide the town-ship with a sorely needed athletic field. At times, members threatened to dissolve the Commission and quit the whole thing. Only courage prevented that.

January of this year found the organization enter-ing its second year in its fight with outside rumblings and against odds of every possible kind.

The "Big Push" Is Launched

Mr. Hruska was again elected president as were Messrs. Stern and Brown re-elected to their respec-tive offices. James Rauchman succeeded Mr. Ferry to the secretaryship following the latter's declination of the renomination. The late D. Harry Ford was named as financial secretary, while the board of directors in-cluded James S. Wight, Maurice B. Sullivan, James Catano, and Messrs. Ferry, Gerns, Randolph and Dr. Rothfuss.

The aforementioned, present day officers drew and continue to receive the wholehearted support of the following members: Dr. H. Belafsky, James Reid, Harry M. Gerns, Nicholas A. Prisco, John Marku-lin, Sr., Joseph Klein, Mark D. McClain, Eugene Schreiner, Anthony A. Aquila, John Markulin, Jr., A. Neiss, Ernest L. Link, A. Rankin and this writer.

However, the untiring efforts of the Commission

members failed to produce the desired result. So, on March 26, 1936, the services of Edward Jordan, pro-fessional promoter of Ridgefield Park, N. J., were engaged. Two weeks later, April 2, Mr. Jordan as-sumed full charge of the raising of \$10,000.

His first important step was the enlistment of the aid of the art classes in the high school in developing a standard poster to be used for publicity purposes. With prizes to the winners, the stunt was a sure-fire success.

Then followed the "Queen of the Stadium" con-test and the "Guess What Time the Clock Stopped" event — all money-making, publicity stunts that took the township like that fellow Grant grabbed Rich-mond.

The big finale, for which all previous undertak-ings were builder-uppers, is the gigantic "Stadium Shows" now being presented on the site of the fu-ture stadium. The "show" — a combination rodeo-circus-carnival-fair project — and the publication of this souvenir book are the two major portions of the entire promotion to reach the goal. Whether or not this objective is attained still remains to be seen.

One thing certain, however, and that is the drive was one of the greatest displays of determination the township has ever witnessed. In all its 267 years, Woodbridge Township has had but three major events — the acquisition of the charter in 1669, the dedication of the Memorial Municipal Building in 1924 and the efficacious Stadium Drive in 1936.

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A TOWNSHIP INDUSTRY AT AVENEL

BRIEF HISTORY OF THE WOODBRIDGE TOWNSHIP SCHOOL SYSTEM

By JOHN H. LOVE

In 1894 the school laws of New Jersey were amended abolishing the old form of school districts each with its three trustees and substituting therefor the township as the school unit.

Under the provisions of Chapter 335, Section 16 of the new law an election, was held in the old Masonic Hall on Green Street, Woodbridge, for the purpose of electing nine trustees of schools for the township, the following gentlemen being the successful candidates out of a field of twenty-two aspirants for the honor: Mr. Howard Valentine, Mrs. C. B. Smith, Mr. Joshua Liddle, Mr. Casimer W. Boynton, Mr. John Lockwood, Mr. Joseph W. Savage, Mr. John H. Hilsdorf, Mr. Charles B. Demarest and Mr. John Correja Jr., the first president being Mr. Howard Valentine and the first clerk of the board, Mr. Charles B. Demarest.

One of the first acts of the newly organized board was to number the schools.

They then proceeded to draw up a budget for the coming year which amounted to \$3000 including teachers' and janitors' salaries, fuel repairs and supplies and text books and pupils' supplies. The assessed valuation of all school property at this time was \$35,150.

Included within the new district were the following schools:

Woodbridge No. 1, a twelve-room brick structure, Blazing Star No. 2 (Carteret) on old four-room frame school; Washington No. 4 (Six Roads), a dilapidated affair; Locust Grove No. 5 and Iselin No. 6, all three being one-room buildings and a two-room frame school at Fairfield (Fords).

Of all these structures, the only one in use at the present time is the old building on School Street, Woodbridge, with its addition of four-rooms erected in 1903 at a cost of \$13,000 including furnishings. Blazing Star No. 2 at Carteret was torn down and replaced with the present building in the Chrome section now enlarged; Rahway Neck is a private residence. Six Roads school was sold and then wrecked; Locust Grove No. 3 stands by the wayside near the golf course and is used as a Sunday school; Iselin school went up in flames and Fairfield (Fords) after being moved from its old site went the same way as old Iselin.

Principals of schools at that time were — Mr. George W. Gamble at No. 1, Miss M. J. McCurdy at No. 2, Miss Carrie O. Jacques at No. 3, Miss E. Ella Baker at No. 4, Miss Rachael Folsom at No. 5 and Mr. William Spencer at No. 7.

In September, the Visitation Committee of the Board reported a total enrollment of 482 children.

In May, 1895, Mr. John H. Love was unanimously elected principal of School No. 1 to commence the following September.

Reports soon began to come in from members of the Board regarding the increased enrollments at various points in the district, indicating that the popu-

lation had commenced a steady growth and that additional school accommodations would soon be required. The great problem of building schools to keep pace with the increased population had commenced and has continued from that time until the present although the last building to be erected was Strawberry Hill in 1931.

In the light of the preceding history, when one views the Woodbridge School System with its splendid, modern fire-proof buildings including one of the finest high school structures in the State with a total valuation of over two million dollars, its corps of 200 teachers and a total enrollment of over six thousand pupils it may be seen what tremendous development has taken place within the township, within the last forty years and the enormity of the task that has been faced and handled so efficiently by the succeeding boards of education that have served the township during those years.

Not only has this development been physical, but the demands of the rapidly changing times have been met in improved and increased curricula demanding new and improved equipment to keep pace therewith.

The present high school is a development from old School No. 1 which originally housed all grades including a small group of about twenty or thirty high school students working in a three-year course.

It is interesting to learn from the records of the trustees of that school that 1881 marked an important epoch in school policy when the following motion was passed:

"Resolved: that we give to the children completing the course of study in the school a Certificate of Graduation" and the first pupils to receive such certificates were—Sidney Pearson, Sadie Brewster, Clara Melick and Lulu Bloodgood.

The idea of centralizing the schools began to bud about the year 1900 when an item of \$300 was inserted in the budget for the transportation of scholars of the higher grade from Carteret to Woodbridge High School. Although this item was rejected by the voters at the election none could foresee the great oak that would grow from such a little acorn. At the present time the budget item for school transportation is over \$26,000.

One of the most advanced steps in progressive policy ever taken by the Board of Education was its decision to unify the schools of the township under one administrative head, the principal of No. 1 being appointed unanimously Supervising Principal over all of the schools in 1900.

Medical inspection was introduced in 1908; manual training in 1909 and the first truant officer appointed in the same year.

The first unit of the present high school building on Barron Avenue was commenced in 1910, Gov. Franklyn Fort laying the corner stone, and opened in September 1911 with John H. Love as the principal.

(Continued on page 9)

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HISTORY OF SCHOOL SYSTEM

(Continued from page 8)

pal. The original cost including land, building, furniture and equipment was \$70,000.

Previous to this time very little attention had been paid to athletics as such although sporadic football teams had been organized and had played games with Perth Amboy and with Battin High at Elizabeth. A home-made gymnasium was set-up in the attic of old No. 1 in 1900, the apparatus being constructed of iron pipe donated for the purpose.

Basketball was introduced a little later in the same location, the first match game being played there with Perth Amboy. The real interest displayed by the Board in athletics was July 17, 1911, when Mr. Frank C. Ryder

(Continued on page 11)

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WOODBIDGE TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT

AVENEL WOMAN'S CLUB

The Woman's Club of Avenel was organized in November, 1920, as a branch of the Woodbridge Woman's Club but later became federated as a separate unit. Mrs. E. H. Boynton of Woodbridge and Mrs. H. J. Baker of Avenel, were the organizers and much credit is due them and the first officers of the club for the wonderful welfare and civic work which the club has always been very active in.

It has been very instrumental in all improvements of the town. Through its efforts in 1930 the wading pool and playgrounds situated at the end of Park Avenue was begun and has been much appreciated by the residents as it has one of the best attendance records of the township.

In welfare work the club from its earliest days has been very active, having paid insurance and having taken care of a funeral in one family, clothing younger members, making layettes, providing fuel and food for many others.

For two years the club supported a milk fund under the direction of Mrs. Arthur Lance which took care of many needs. It held community Christmas parties for the children for a number of years.

The Avenel Public Library was first started in the club and held for a number of years in the members' homes.

The club has been handicapped by uncertain meeting places, having met at different intervals in the Progressive Club of past years, the schoolhouse, the Republican Headquarters, in the members' homes, in the firehouse. Now it is planning to meet in the schoolhouse during the coming year.

Twelve was the number enrolled at the first meeting having steadily increased during the years till now there are fifty members listed. The first officers were: Mrs. H. J. Baker, president; Mrs. F. E. Barth, secretary, and Mrs. L. C. Wyler, treasurer. Mrs. Baker, Mrs. Barth and the only other charter member Mrs. Charles Siessel were recently made life members.

The present officers are: President, Mrs. Thomas

Thompson; first vice-president, Mrs. William A. Barth; second vice-president, Mrs. Frederick Beckley; recording secretary, Mrs. Dirk P. DeYoung; corresponding secretary, Mrs. A. Kaplan, and treasurer, Mrs. Fred Brause.

The chairmen include: Literature, Mrs. Arvid Winquist; American Home, Mrs. Frank Barth; Publicity, Mrs. William Barth; Welfare, Mrs. Charles Siessel; Ways and Means, Mrs. C. N. Van Leer; Program, Mrs. Frederick Beckley; Hospitality, Mrs. Merwin Jones; Membership, Mrs. William Kuzniak; Gardens, Mrs. John Azud; Junior Councilor, Mrs. P. L. Coupland; Girls Club Councilor, Mrs. William Perna, and International Relations and Legislation, Mrs. R. G. Perier.

THE JANET GAGE CHAPTER D. A. R.

The Janet Gage Chapter D. A. R. was organized on January 20th, 1924, with a membership of eighteen. The officers appointed were: Regent, Mrs. Frank R. Valentine; vice-regent, Mrs. William Tombs, recording secretary, Mrs. John E. Breckenridge; corresponding secretary, Mrs. H. J. Baker, Jr.; treasurer, Mrs. M. Irving Demarest; librarian, Miss Mittie Randolph; registrar, Miss Laura Brodhead.

Janet Gage, for whom the Chapter was named, was a resident of Woodbridge during the Revolutionary War. She was a very patriotic woman and, with the assistance of an old colored man, prepared and erected the first Liberty Pole in the town, and raised the Flag.

When the Charter was received, in December, 1924, there were thirty-one names enrolled.

Today our organization has a membership of fifty-eight. The officers are: Regent, Mrs. Ernest Moffett; vice-regent, Mrs. A. R. Bergen; recording secretary, Mrs. J. M. Coddington; corresponding secretary, Mrs. T. R. Jones; treasurer, Mrs. W. Leon Harned; registrar, Mrs. John Kregger; historian, Mrs. Konrad Stern; chaplain, Mrs. H. A. Tappen; librarian, Mrs. C. R. Chase.

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HISTORY OF SCHOOL SYSTEM

(Continued from page 9)

was appointed high school physical instructor. This gentleman, in addition to his regular physical training work, organized a fine football team and a baseball team which commenced to play on the Parish House field. Athletics may be said to date from that time.

In 1917 Physical Training in the schools was made compulsory throughout the State by Act of Legislature. Athletics all over the country has now come to be considered an integral part of every high school scheme of education.

The tremendous growth in high school enrollment during the past few years has brought into the educational fold thousands of boys and girls who are at an age that demands an outlet for their energies such as athletics affords

(Continued on page 13)

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The Woodbridge Fire Company No. 1 was formed October 28th, 1897, and the first officers were as follows: J. V. Freeman, president; W. S. Amess, financial secretary; J. H. Leisen, treasurer; E. J. Flanagan, secretary; David A. Brown, chief; John Thompson, assistant chief.

The following is the list of chiefs in order of their terms:

| | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| David A. Brown | E. W. Sattler |
| John Thompson | Peter A. Peterson |
| Fred A. Hughes | Peter Greiner |
| C. F. Turner | Leo E. Goriss |
| R. A. Hirner | Charles Mc Cann |
| Howard Valentine | Alfred Markowsky |
| Lawrence Moore | Fredinand Kath |
| H. B. Mawbey | W. Leon Harned |
| B. A. Dmigan | Edward Melick |
| Otto Kath | William Allgaier |
| Frank R. Valentine | Lewis Zehrer |
| William Prall | Fred Mawbey |
| Walter Peterson | William Messick |
| John Bergen | James Catano |
| H. C. Turner | Fred Zehrer |
| William Gilham | Albert Hunt |
| | Thomas F. Kath |

The following is the list of the present officers: President, Charles Brown; vice-president, Leon McElroy; treasurer, Ernest Hunt; recording secretary, William Messick; financial secretary, Edward Sattler; chief, Thomas F. Kath; first assistant chief, John Haborak; second assistant, William Prion. Charles Brown has been president of this company from 1917 to 1936, (19 years).

SEWAREN PARENT-TEACHER ASSOCIATION

Twelve years ago, on September 25th, 1924, twenty-two mothers and teachers of the Seward School met and formed a Parent-Teacher Association. The following officers were elected: President, Mrs. Charles Lewis; vice-president, Miss Margaret Lockwood; secretary, Miss Grace Campbell; treasurer, Mrs. John Lahey.

This Association has functioned continuously since its beginning, and, through its efforts, has made possible a number of interesting projects which have benefitted the children, teachers, school and community of Seward.

The present officers consist of: Mrs. Herbert Rankin, president; Mrs. William Baran and Miss Margaret Lockwood, vice-presidents; Mrs. Joseph Skarda, secretary and Mrs. Russel Solt, treasurer.

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HISTORY OF SCHOOL SYSTEM

(Continued from page 11)

under proper guidance. The general public is beginning to realize this and money is being voted by taxpayers or raised in other ways for the construction of athletic fields and the building of stadiums. The demand for such provision in Woodbridge Township is natural and no doubt the necessity generally admitted.

If the present efforts to secure a field and stadium in the township do not culminate in success, then it may be many years before another attempt is launched and in the meanwhile the thousands of growing youth within the township will be denied the privilege of such an addition to Woodbridge Community life.

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OFFICERS OF ISELIN FIRE COMPANY

Officers and leading members of Fire Company No. 1 of Iselin, District Nine in the township's volunteer fire protection system, the shown here. In the first row, from left to right are: Albert Roloff, an ex-chief; Richard Roloff, assistant chief; Frank Burgisser, chief, and Andrew Sedlak, ex-chief. Standing are: Frank Reedy, trustee; Daniel Reynolds, secretary; Frank Coper, president; Herbert Williams, former secretary, and Michael Mastrangelo, trustee. Among other members of the company is Henry King.

HISTORY OF THE SEWAREN REPUBLICAN CLUB

INCORPORATED

By LUCY J. LA FARR, Secretary

Sewaren for years had a group of loyal Republican leaders who "carried on" for the party practically as a club. It was obvious to these leaders that the formation of an association with regular officers was necessary, therefore plans were made which resulted in the organization of the Sewaren Republican Club on May 19, 1932. The object being to promote the interests of the Republican Party in Woodbridge Township generally and in Sewaren specifically. A meeting at this time was presided over by Mr. Charles Wiswall, acting as temporary chairman, who explained that there seemed to be the need for an organization in Sewaren to further the interests of the various political candidates. It was decided to elect the permanent officers immediately, and Mr. D. V.

Rush was unanimously elected president. Other officers chosen were: Mrs. F. J. Adams, vice president; Mr. F. H. Turner, treasurer, and Mrs. F. J. La Farr, secretary.

Rallies, card parties, dinners, Bingo parties and all the various activities participated in by a live political organization have been successfully carried out.

Regular meetings are held on the last Tuesday of each month except December, July and August when the club may be called in session by the President.

On December 9, 1933, plans were completed to become an incorporated club and trustees were elected as follows: Mrs. Emeline S. Keifer, Mr. H. B. Rankin, Mr. H. D. Clark, Mr. F. H. Turner and Mr. Ever Everson.

The articles of incorporation were signed by the following club members: Mr. D. V. Rush, president; Mrs. F. J. LaFarr, secretary. Mr. George Luffbarry and Mr. John Ellems. Mr. Ernest W. Nier acted as witness and the acknowledgements were taken by Mr. F. H. Turner as Notary Public.

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YOUNG REPUBLICAN CLUB OF AVENEL

Four years ago on April 11, 1932, Miss Helen Tuttle organized the Young Republican Club of Avenel, the first in Middlesex County. This organization, starting with a small group of civic minded young men and women who wished to promote and maintain the intelligent and progressive principles of the Republican Party; and, to sponsor men and women best qualified for public office in order to insure sound legislation and competent administration, has grown steadily—today it is recognized all over the county. Officers elected at the first meeting were: Miss Helen Tuttle, president; Howard Greenhalgh, vice-president; Herman Stern, secretary, and Charles Siessel, Jr., treasurer.

A birthday party in the Avenel School on April 10, 1933, with State, County and local speakers, entertainment and dancing came as a fitting climax to the years' activities — the first annual dance at the Sewaren Land and Water Club; the appointment of Miss Helen Tuttle and Ralph Wheeler to the County Young Republican Executive Committee; the organization of a successful basketball team under the leadership of Ned Pomeroy; and, the rallies and parties held in cooperation with the Avenel Parish House Republican Club.

During the second year, when Miss Helen Tuttle was placed on the Young Republican Campaign Committee of the State and Ralph Wheeler was elected Young Republican County chairman, the club held socials for its members, card parties and its annual dance. It cooperated with the Avenel Parish House Republican Club in sponsoring a minstrel, outings, rallies, and in electing Republican candidates to the Township Committee. At Christmas toys and candy were distributed to the needy children of Avenel.

Distinction was again achieved during the third year when Miss Audrey Bird and Herman Stern were respectively elected vice-chairman and treasurer of the County Young Republicans. Activities similar to those of the preceding year were successfully sponsored.

Last year, politically, was the banner year. Members were recognized for their ability and given important posts by the Third Ward Republican Organization. Herman Stern was chairman of the Campaign Committee and Charles Sajben, Jr., who had charge of the Third Ward Republican Outing, was secretary with Andrew Dragoset serving on the Finance Committee. Mrs. Helen Tuttle Rasmussen and Herman Stern were respectively appointed Associate-Chairman and Finance Chairman of the County Young Republicans. In addition to sponsoring events similar to those of former years, the club went on record as supporting the Woodbridge Township Sta-

dium Commission, as endorsing certain qualified men for public office, and as opposing the grade crossings and the increase in gas rates.

This year Mrs. Helen Tuttle Rasmussen was re-elected for the fifth time. Under her leadership, the other officers: Charles Sajben, Jr., first vice-president; Mrs. Dorothy Stocker, second vice-president; Miss Helen Schoedler, secretary; Alexander Kettler, Jr., treasurer, and Ernest Kettler, financial secretary; together with the other members of the Young Republican Club of Avenel will continue the work of their predecessors in giving a helping hand, in promoting loyalty to the government and in supporting the Constitution of these United States of America.

PRIDE OF NEW JERSEY COUNCIL NO. 243, SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF LIBERTY

Pride of New Jersey Council No. 243, Sons and Daughters of Liberty organized on August 7th, 1929, with a total membership of 57 and Mr. Henry F. Niebank serving as councilor of the organization. The council was instituted on the above date by Mrs. Bertha Holeman who at that time was State Councilor for the State of New Jersey.

As the years have gone by, the council has progressed very rapidly and has gained wide recognition in the State. Also at the recent State Convention it has had the honors of having a National Representative elected. This council has always been very active in the Township whenever called upon to serve for such outstanding movements such as the Stadium movement.

It is a pleasure for this council to offer our congratulations to all concerned in making this Stadium drive a great success and we will, under the leadership of the present councilor of the organization, do all in our power to make this drive a success.

ERNIE NIER REPUBLICAN CLUB

The Ernie Nier Republican Club was organized in the year of 1933 with Mr. James S. Webb serving as president. The club has served in the Third Ward fourth polling district as an organization to help make the fourth district a clean and fruitful place to live. When the club was first organized the membership numbered 35 and at the present time under the leadership of Mr. R. Sprague the retiring president the membership numbers fifty. Such personalities as Mr. Webb, Mr. Thergeson, Mr. Sprague, Mr. C. R. Davis and Mrs. Fred Linn, the new president, the club has worked for the benefit of the community and will continue to do so in the future. The Ernie Nier Republican Club wishes the Stadium Commission and those behind the drive a great deal of success.

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3RD WARD WOMEN'S REPUBLICAN CLUB

The Third Ward Women's Republican Club of Woodbridge Township was organized January, 1934, at Hiram's Farm, Avenel, N. J.

The object of this organization was to promote Republican spirit among the women and other organizations of the Republican Party.

Election of officers for that year were: Mrs. Lucy La Farr, president; four vice-presidents, Parish House, Mrs. Ella Linn; Port Reading, Mrs. Florence Redd; Sewaren, Mrs. Emily Kiefer; Avenel, Mrs. Edna Hanson; financial secretary, Mrs. Sophie Brookfield, Woodbridge; recording secretary, Mrs. Jean Peterson, Avenel; treasurer, Mrs. Mary Sasso, Port Reading.

Mr. Herbert Rankin of Sewaren was running at this time for Freeholder and the women of the Third Ward Republican Club were behind him strong.

Mrs. Lucy La Farr represented our Club at the luncheon given by the United Women's Republican Club of Middlesex County at the Hotel Woodrow Wilson in New Brunswick, May 10th, 1934.

In September, 1934, the organization joined the United Women's Republican Club of Middlesex County.

January 1935 election of officers for the coming year was held; and a large card party was planned for the club, Mrs. Lillian Quinn being chairman.

In March the club endorsed two bills which came before the Senate, Bill No. 54 - No. 205.

In April Mr. George Miller gave a very interesting talk on Tax Sales, and endorsing Governor Hoffman's Tax Sale.

In May 1935, the club endorsed Mayor Greiner for re-election.

In August a get-together meeting was held at Hiram's Farm at which time the following guests were present: Mayor Greiner, Committeeman Ernest Nier, Road Engineer Clarence Davis, Mr. Ernest Berger and Mr. Merrill Mosher.

In October, 1935, a Tea was given in honor of Mrs. Marian Clark, running for the Assembly, and all candidates and their wives were invited to attend. Mrs. Hoffman was present to represent the Governor—Mrs. Theresa Holsworth, Mrs. Iscle, Mrs. Martin and many other distinguished speakers including our Mayor.

In January, 1936, new officers were elected for the coming year: Mrs. La Farr, president; four vice-presidents, Mrs. Norma Davis, Parish House; Mrs. Florence Redd, Port Reading; Mrs. Lillian Quinn, Sewaren; Mrs. Elizabeth Berger, Avenel; recording

secretary, Mrs. Jane Bernard, Avenel; financial secretary, Mrs. Sophia Brookfield, Woodbridge; treasurer, Miss Nicolina Lombardi, Port Reading.

A set of resolutions were sent to the Utility Commission and Woodbridge Township Committee regarding the raising of the gas rates by the Perth Amboy Gas Company in the homes of the Township members.

A meeting was held at Hiram's Farm at which our guest speaker was Miss Dolly Madison, National vice chairman of the Young Republican Clubs, and also organizer of the Young Republican Club of Avenel. Also many other prominent speakers were present.

WOODBIDGE TOWNSHIP BUSINESSMEN'S ASSOCIATION

The first meeting of the businessmen of Woodbridge was held on August 31, 1932, at the Memorial Municipal building. Lawrence F. Campion opened the meeting and appointed Mrs. Louis Cohen as acting secretary. Over thirty businessmen were present at the initial meeting.

At the second meeting of the organization the following officers were elected: President, Peter Vogel; vice president, Louis Toke; secretary, Mrs. Louis Cohen; treasurer, Lawrence F. Campion.

Since its organization the business group has been very active in civic affairs. Annually it sponsors a Hallowe'en parade, it donates to units like the Red Cross and the Tuberculosis league and has been one of the most ardent supporters of the stadium movement. Just recently the businessmen sponsored a theatre party, the entire proceeds of which was turned over to the Stadium Commission. Mrs. Martha Zetlemoyer was chairman of the event.

The present officers of the Woodbridge Township Businessmen's Association are:

President, Fred G. Baldwin; vice president, Dr. W. Z. Barrett; secretary, Miss Ruth Wolk; treasurer, Joseph Cohen.

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